

I oppose any action that would lessen Indiana's Telephone Privacy law protection.

Before this law went into effect, I had simply stopped ever answering my phone because the overwhelming majority were nuisance calls from telemarketers. This meant that I would be awakened by the phone (I work late and sleep late, so the 9:00 AM restriction meant nothing) because I wanted to know if it was a call I wanted to receive. And of course it never was a call I wanted. I considered this a massive invasion of privacy, as if the fact that I was paying for this phone gave everyone a free entrance into my house and my life, and I was ready to simply have it disconnected.

Since then I have had perhaps four calls regarding septic tank additives (which I no longer need). The telephone is again a useful and valued feature.

I am very happy with the law as it now stands. It really changed my life. The law is important because it protects people from an extremely annoying and disruptive invasion. It means I can have a way to communicate with people without being assaulted from all over the country by computerised telemarketers who, as often as not, don't even respond when I do pick up the phone. Normally if someone were to do the equivalent by banging on my walls or ringing the doorbell I could get some sort of protective action against them, but with the telephone there was no such recourse, and I consider this a violation of my rights.

The Indiana law protects my right to live in my home without being harassed several times a day by unwanted and unsolicited calls. I sincerely hope this right will not be mitigated.